

FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

SECURITY : **RESTRICTED**PRIORITY: **Air Priority**

TO : Department of State

738.022/9-2650

FROM : ~~Port-au-Prince~~ 150 September 26, 1950

One enclosure

REF : Dept.'s circular airgrams of March 7, 1950, 8:05 a.m., and
September 15, 1950, 2:05 p.m.

SUBJECT : Delimitation of Inland Waters and The Marginal Sea of Haiti.

Continued requests have finally enabled the Embassy to obtain from the Haitian Foreign Office the information called for in the Department's circular airgram of March 7, 1950, cited above. Enclosed are a copy and a translation of note no. SG/A-3:2065 dated September 23, 1950, from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs setting forth the position of the Haitian Government with respect to the delimitation and measurement of its inland waters and its marginal sea.

William E. DeCourcy
William E. DeCourcy
American Ambassador

Enclosure:

Copy and translation of
note no. SG/A-3:2065 of
September 23, 1950, from
the Foreign Office

File 322.2

WEDeCourcy:ma

RESTRICTED18
For Dept.
use only.R
E
C
D
SEP
29A
C
T
I
O
N
OIR/GEI
N
F
O
L
FR
DCR
ARA
OLI

U/FW

COM
MC
IN

SCM

Page Denied

SECURITY :

RESTRICTEDEnclosure to despatch no. 150,
Sept. 26, 1950, from Port-au-Prince.TRANSLATIONSecretariat of State
for
Foreign Relations

Republic of Haiti

SG/A-3:2065

The Secretariat of State for Foreign Relations presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States of America and has the honor to refer to the Embassy's Notes of March 13 and July 22, 1950, (Nos. 618 and 744) relative to the delimitation and the extent of the territorial waters and the principal seas of Haiti.

The delimitation and the extent of territorial waters have not been established by any provisions of Haitian law. Nevertheless, the principles and the necessity for defending and controlling the coasts, the coastal installations and the national territory have led the Haitian Government, in conformity with the opinion expressed by the General Staff of the Haitian Army, to adopt the distance of six nautical miles, recognized as the limit of territorial waters by a number of States and proclaimed by the Institute of International Law in 1894 in its rules on territorial waters, and by the International Law Association.

The base line of the marginal belt of six miles delimiting Haitian territorial waters is fixed at the shores of the Island of Haiti and the islands adjacent to the Republic - La Tortue, Gonave, Cayemittes, Navassa, Ile à Vache - and extends in the direction of the sea.

The Haitian Government, in conformity with the principles of International Law, reserves the right to establish, at such time as may seem opportune, such other limits as may be required, in case of force majeure, by the necessity for defending the national territory.

(Initialed) A. L.

Port-au-Prince, September 23, 1950

Translation: William E. DeCourcy

RESTRICTED